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teacher and pupil should co-operate in making such analyses for themselves. Possibly the successive editions of this series may some day serve as documents for the history of educational theory and practice. In general, the most noteworthy feature of the various volumes is the exclusive attention paid to the language of the text and the author's meaning; occasionally in the introduction an editor may refer to matters of literary art, to the significance of the text in its relation to the history of culture, but in the main such comment is wanting; no effort is made by apt quotation or statement of fact to correlate ancient and modern life and thought. We need not infer that this aspect of classical study is neglected. On the contrary, we regard the practice followed in these editions as an interesting and perhaps praiseworthy contrast to the somewhat obvious efforts to tickle the palate in some American editions. The German editor addresses himself sensibly to the task of interpretation, and of interpretation in the most limited and immediate sense; he leaves to the teacher's individuality and special competence the broader kind of interpretation.

Much as we may envy the German schools these "up-to-date" editions, we do not altogether approve of the readiness with which the editors on occasion appropriate the results of recent scholarly investigation before they have been accepted by any considerable number of conservative scholars. An editor may well be convinced that a new theory is right or a new fact sufficiently attested, but should he in an edition intended for school use rely solely upon his own judgment? The somewhat revolutionary theory of Sudhaus in regard to Plautus' *Cantica* may or may not be right, but in either case we are surprised to find it accepted without question and incorporated in the text and commentary of the *Capituli* within a year of its publication and before any students of Plautus have publicly expressed their approval.

H. W. P.

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*Charakterköpfe aus der antiken Literatur.* Zweite Reihe: fünf Vorträge von EDUARD SCHWARTZ. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1910.

The second series of Schwartz's *Charakterköpfe* deals with representative men of the Hellenistic period, with Diogenes, Crates, and Epicurus, with the poet Theocritus, the scientist Eratosthenes, and the apostle Paul. The choice of subjects makes it possible for the author to discuss many important aspects of Hellenistic thought and literature; the book becomes a stimulating presentation of the significance of the entire period.

The chapter on Theocritus illustrates the insight and bold imagination that are characteristic of the essayist. Hellenistic poetry in general, features of social life, Hellenistic music are incidentally illuminated by phrase or sentence or paragraph while the author is engaged in throwing light upon the art and personality of the poet. We learn that Theocritus, though Sicilian born, read Sophron only in the course of residence in Alexandria; that his

pastoral poetry was not suggested by any Sicilian environment but was composed in the midst of the bohemian set of literary and musical confrères at Cos; Sophron's influence is conceded, but the herdsmen are not genuine; they are masquerading. The Syracusan Women, the Cyclops, the Thalsysia, the Pharmaceutria are duly appreciated in pregnant sentences; the Daphnis-cycle is neglected, doubtless because the author has treated it fully in a learned essay. Schwartz is enthusiastic, warmly appreciative, stimulating; he feels the appeal that Theocritus makes to *ein unmoderner Mensch, dem rauchende Schöte, heulende Automobile, protzige Hotels, und gaffendes Reisevolk kein stilles Fleckchen mehr gönnen*; if the reader is dismayed occasionally by bold combinations of evidence or brilliant flashes of imagination where evidence seems to be wanting, he should at least be thankful for his escape from the old conception of Theocritus as unsophisticated and easily intelligible.

H. W. P.

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*Die Anschauungen vom Wesen des Griechenthums.* Von GUSTAV BILLETER. Leipzig und Berlin: B. G. Teubner, 1911.

A *Review of Reviews* has proved a successful experiment in periodical literature; there is no reason why "Generalities on Generalities on Greek Culture" should not be interesting and profitable. It appears that many historians and philologists and critics of every sort, from the eighteenth century on, have rashly engaged in generalizations upon various phases of Greek life and thought, various aspects of the Greek character and temperament, and what not. The author of this book has felt impelled to give us a *systematische Darstellung* of these modern criticisms; he is struck by the persistence of certain views and hopes that a history of modern opinions may lead to a clearer and more convincing evaluation of the Greek people. The first part of the book is devoted to this historical sketch; the second part includes, under appropriate rubrics, selected examples of the estimates put upon the Greek people, a sort of depository of obituary notices.

Inasmuch as there is no recourse to ancient sources and no test of any sort is applied to these modern critiques, the book is simply a history of modern thought so far as it has been directed toward an evaluation of the Greeks. It is not uninteresting to note how idiosyncrasy, individual or racial, and environment have affected modern critics, to see the persistence of a traditional view and its slow disintegration, to witness the total disagreement of the doctors and infer therefrom the futility of diagnosis. Were the Greeks cheerful or tearful? There are champions of both views, and the reviewer is apparently isolated in his view that the Greeks were both cheerful and tearful like most of the inhabitants of southern Europe today. One's sense of perspective may be broadened by such a book; as a history of modern thought it is not without value; but we can commend it without reservation only to the composer of "popular" lectures.

H. W. P.